

Application Number 10/533008
Response to Office Action dated 06/07/2007

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on June 7, 2007. Claims 1-10 are pending.

§102 Rejections:

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected as being anticipated by Khuu (US Patent No. 6,081,407). This rejection is traversed.

Claim 1 is directed to a case that requires, among other features, that both a spatial distance D4 between the top face of the second rib and the inner surface of the first side plate, and a spatial distance D5 between the top face of the first protrusion and the inner surface of the second side plate allow a width D6 of the insertion in a facing direction of the first side plate and the second side plate to be inserted with a loose fit. Accordingly, spatial distances D4 and D5 are larger than the width D6 of the insertion but are smaller than a width in the facing direction of the first side plate and the second side plate. Thus, the width in the facing direction of the first side plate and the second side plate has a size sufficiently larger than that of the width D6 of the insertion. Also, when an insertion is inserted in the case, the second rib does not function as a stopper for stopping the motion of the insertion, because the spatial distance D4 between the top face of the second rib and the inner surface of the first side plate is a size that allows the width D6 of the insertion to be inserted with a loose fit.

KhUU does not disclose or teach or suggest these features. KhUU is directed to cover springs for positioning a removable video disk cartridge that includes side walls 76 of base 26 to fittingly receive the side edges 74 of cartridge 60 (see column 5, lines 60-61 and Figure 4). Thus, KhUU cannot disclose or suggest the configuration of claim 1 that allows a width D6 of the insertion in a facing direction of the first side plate and the second side plate to be inserted with a loose fit. Also, the stops 78, interpreted in the rejection as the first and second ribs of claim 1, stop forward motion of the cartridge 60 (see column 5, line 64). However, as described above, the first and second ribs of claim 1 do not function as a stopper for stopping the motion of the insertion. Furthermore, nowhere does KhUU disclose or suggest a second rib with a height D2 that is shorter than a first rib with a height D1. The stops 78 in KhUU are only disclosed as having the same

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height (see Figure 5A). Moreover, nowhere does Khuu disclose or suggest the protrusion of claim 1. For at least these reasons claim 1 is not suggested by Khuu. Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons.

§103 Rejections:

Claims 2-4 and 6-10 are rejected as being unpatentable over Khuu in view of Inoue (US Patent No. 6,590,858). This rejection is traversed. Claims 2-4 and 6-10 depend from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons described above. Applicant does not concede the correctness of this rejection.

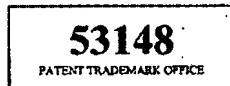
Inoue Reference:

In order to expedite the prosecution of this matter the following is noted regarding claim 1 with respect to the Inoue reference. The figures in Inoue only disclose one side of a rack bar 70. Assuming that the rack bar 70 is laterally symmetrical, Inoue will disclose a case in which a cartridge is fittingly received between side walls of the rack bar 70. Thus, similar to the reasons described above with respect to the Khuu reference, Inoue does not disclose or suggest the configuration of claim 1 that allows a width D6 of the insertion in a facing direction of the first side plate and the second side plate to be inserted with a loose fit.

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Conclusion:

Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 455-3804.



Dated: November 6, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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